

July 18, 1960

Dr. Lawrence Dunkleman  
Goddard Space Flight Center  
8719 Colesville Road  
Silver Spring, Maryland

Dear Dr. Dunkleman:

At a recent meeting, Dr. Friedman mentioned something of your current work and interest in ultraviolet astronomy. Partly with the help of a grant from NASA, we are looking into the applicability of an ultraviolet microscope for the detection of planetary life. It would, therefore, be most advantageous to us if we could take advantage of your own progress.

An item of particular interest that Dr. Friedman mentioned was a nickel-sorbitol filter that you are attributed to find superior to some of Kasha's formulations. I would appreciate hearing more about this if it would be applicable to our own interests in obtaining UV in more or less monochromatic bands in the neighborhood of 2600 and 2800 Å.

I am enclosing a paper that will give some idea of the background of our proposed experiments. I would also appreciate receiving a reprint of a paper that Dr. Friedman mentioned as giving a measurement of the albedo of Mars at 2700 Å.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics